



# Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday 2 February 2018

## FIRST NATIONS MEDIA MATTERS



*PHOTO: Gavin Ivey, Koori Radio Program Manager*

Yuggera Nation (Brisbane) is the next meeting ground for **CONVERGE**; First Nations Media National Conference. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander media professionals and organisations are gathering on the shores of Maiwar (Brisbane River) at the State Library of Queensland from the 13 to 15 March.

The annual conference is hosted by Indigenous Remote Communications Association (IRCA), the peak body for First Nations media.

Delegates will explore and discuss policy around the vital role of First Nations media in Australia and beyond. **CONVERGE** will hear from organisations that are

**Indigenous Remote Communications Association (IRCA)** [comms@irca.net.au](mailto:comms@irca.net.au) [irca.net.au](http://irca.net.au)

benchmarking excellence and will network with media professionals. **CONVERGE** also provides an opportunity for media to discuss and self-determine how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stories are reported and shared.

The theme of the conference is *Dandiiri Beerwah Dahgu, Inta Naree Yanmana Ngani* which translates in Yuggera language to meeting together, moving in one direction. "Working together as a unified and connected voice, our national body has great power to speak strongly for our needs and aspirations, and advocate on behalf of the Indigenous media sector," said Dot West.

The conference will also include the Annual General Meeting which will report on IRCA's interactions with government and other agencies over the past 12 months and allow members to inform IRCA on future directives for the coming year.

**CONVERGE** welcomes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander media organisations and individuals working across all platforms; radio, film/TV, print, online and mobile. Registration closes Friday 23 February 2018.

To find out more visit <https://irca.net.au/events/converge>.

CONVERGE 2017 photos:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/irca/albums/72157684398491295>

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**IRCA General Manager Daniel Featherstone is available for interviews**

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**Indigenous Remote Communications Association (IRCA)** is the peak body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander media. Founded in 2001 as the peak body for remote Indigenous media and communications, we undertook a structural change and expanded our membership and role to become the national peak body in 2016/2017. Up to 105 Remote Indigenous Broadcasting Services (RIBS), 33 additional licensed retransmission sites across Australia, 8 Remote Indigenous Media Organisations (RIMOs) and 28 urban and regional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander radio services are eligible for representation by IRCA.